



**SHAKESPEARE'S  
GLOBE**

## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **SHAKESPEARE'S GLOBE ANNOUNCES FESTIVE ACTIVITY FOR 2023**

Shakespeare's Globe today announces special events, collaborations, and inspiration for visitors old and young to make the Globe their festive destination for 2023.

- Virtuoso classical guitarist **Xuefei Yang** will play a concert specially curated for the candlelit Sam Wanamaker Playhouse on **Monday 11 December**.
- Comedian **Tim Key** brings his popular Chrimbo Bimbo show to the Sam Wanamaker Playhouse on **Monday 18 December**.
- ***Hansel and Gretel*** runs in the Globe Theatre from **8 December – 7 January**, with accompanying **workshops for young people** beginning on **9 December**.
- Specially designed biscuits created by the Globe and **Biscuiteers** celebrating Shakespeare now available in-store and online.

On **Monday 11 December**, following performances at the Southbank Centre, Royal Albert Hall, Carnegie Hall and Lincoln Center, New York, **Xuefei Yang** will perform a one-off, intimate concert in the candlelit Playhouse to celebrate the winter season, reflect on the past and look to the future. Xuefei has created a programme drawn from Ancient China, through Europe to Latin American and modern day composers. Hailed as a musical pioneer, Xuefei's international success has led her to be invited to play in more than 50 countries at numerous prestigious venues, and major music festivals such as BBC Proms, Edinburgh International Festival, Shanghai MISA Festival and the Beijing international Music Festival.

On **Monday 18 December**, acclaimed poet, actor and comedian **Tim Key** brings his festive extravaganza Chrimbo Bimbo in the Sam Wanamaker Playhouse. Audiences are invited into Key's irreverent world of poetry, mulled wine and Chrimbo cheer, with Christmas jumpers strongly encouraged.

Adapted from Poet Laureate **Simon Armitage's** epic version of the fairy tale, the new stage production of ***Hansel and Gretel*** runs from in the Globe Theatre **8 December 2023 until 7 January 2024**. Directed by **Nick Bagnall** and filled with music, magic, songs and a sprinkling of hope, *Hansel and Gretel* is aimed at everyone aged 5+. Shakespeare's Globe has collaborated with **Great British Bake Off finalist Steven Carter-Bailey** to create the Globe Theatre out of cake, evocative of the infamous gingerbread house in The Brothers Grimm's *Hansel and Gretel*. Steven was a front runner from the beginning of the 2017 series of Bake Off, the first series on Channel 4. Since then, he's had commissions all over the world, baking for the likes of Sir Ian McKellen, Benedict Cumberbatch, and Jonathan Van Ness. He returned to the tent in 2021 to win the Great New Year's Bake Off.

Two interactive workshops for young people and their grown-ups will be the perfect accompaniment to a festive day at the Globe. The **Hansel and Gretel Drama and Music Workshop** for 5–8-year-olds will explore the story, characters and music of The Brothers Grimm fairy tale through fun activities led by a Globe practitioner. Children aged 9-12 can enjoy the **Hansel and Gretel Spoken Word and Drama Workshop**, using creative writing and performance to similarly dive into the magical woodland world. Both workshops run from 9 December 2023 to 7 January 2024.

Shakespeare's Globe have collaborated with **Biscuiteers** to create intricate iced biscuit icons from Shakespeare's plays, including Yorick's skull and Henry V's crown, to Macbeth's dagger and the poison bottle that sealed Romeo and Juliet's fate. A biscuit tin of Shakespearean treats is available from the Globe shop and online, as well as a gingerbread Globe Theatre. For the first time, Shakespeare's Globe have also designed a **Christmas jumper**, available now alongside many other festive gifts for lovers of the Bard.

From **18 – 30 December**, families can explore the Globe and hear how Christmas was celebrated in Shakespeare's time. The **Festive Family Tour** is a magical way to learn about the folk traditions that people practiced when welcoming in winter, from wassailing to the winter solstice, 'kissing boughs' to proper mince pies.

Share the gift of **Membership** with a friend or loved one. Shakespeare's Globe members get backstage access to our wooden 'O' including priority booking, generous discounts, and members-only events, including the Heaven to Hell Guided Tour. On this tour, Members and Patrons can explore the theatre's secrets from the attic to the under-Globe and discover the behind-the-scenes magic with a visit to the backstage, props and costume stores.

Visitors to Shakespeare's Globe can also enjoy a cosy roast, Christmas cocktail or festive afternoon tea at **Swan at the Globe**, with stunning views across the Thames. The Swan's delicious new Christmas menu will launch on 23 November, and a new **Hansel and Gretel themed afternoon tea** will launch on 27 November, just in time for the show's run in the Globe Theatre. The Swan also offers vouchers which make a perfect gift for use all year round.

## ENDS

### EDITOR'S NOTES

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#### IMAGES:

Festive activity: <https://we.tl/t-GXRpKqFJjg>  
Shakespeare's Globe: <https://we.tl/t-QEISDeG4yU>

"London's best-value theatre ticket" – Time Out  
Best Theatre in London: Time Out Best of The City Awards  
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#### WINTER SEASON

10 November – 20 April  
Tickets £65 - £5

#### **Ghosts by Henrik Ibsen**

10 November 2023 – 28 January 2024  
Press Night: Wednesday 22 November  
#GhostsGlobe  
Sam Wanamaker Playhouse

#### **Hansel and Gretel by Simon Armitage**

8 December 2023 – 7 January 2024  
Press Night: Thursday 14 December  
#HanselAndGretelGlobe  
Globe Theatre

#### **Othello by William Shakespeare**

19 January – 13 April 2024  
Press Night: Tuesday 30 January  
#OthelloGlobe  
Sam Wanamaker Playhouse

#### **The Duchess of Malfi by John Webster**

17 February – 14 April 2024  
Press Night: Thursday 29 February  
#DuchessOfMalfiGlobe  
Sam Wanamaker Playhouse

#### **Playing Shakespeare with Deutsche Bank: *Romeo and Juliet***

29 February – 27 March 2024 (Schools)  
Globe Theatre

#### SPECIAL EVENTS

#### ***Burnt at the Stake, or The Whole of the Truth***

13 October 2023  
Globe Theatre

#### **Ghost Stories by Candlelight**

23 – 25 November 2023  
Sam Wanamaker Playhouse

#### ***I, Malvolio***

30 November – 9 December 2023  
Sam Wanamaker Playhouse

#### **Xuefei Yang: By Candlelight**

11 December 2023  
Sam Wanamaker Playhouse

#### **Tim Key: *Chrimbo Bimbo***

18 December 2023  
Sam Wanamaker Playhouse

#### ASSISTED PERFORMANCES

Patrons who are members of the [free access scheme](#) are eligible for adjusted ticket prices.

#### **Ghosts**

Audio Described: 16 December, 2pm  
Captioned: 6 December, 7.30pm; 6 January, 2pm  
Relaxed: 20 December, 7.30pm; 4 January, 7.30pm

#### **Hansel and Gretel**

Audio Described: 2 January, 2.30pm  
Captioned: 22 December, 11am; 6 January, 11am  
BSL: 22 December, 3pm; 3 January, 2.30pm  
Relaxed: 4 January, 2.30pm; 6 January, 3pm

#### **Othello**

Audio Described: 24 February, 2pm; 16 March, 2pm  
Captioned: 8 February, 2pm; 9 March, 7.30pm  
Relaxed: 22 February, 7.30pm; 3 April, 2pm

#### **The Duchess of Malfi**

Audio Described: 23 March, 2pm; 6 April, 2pm  
Captioned: 9 March, 2pm; 5 April, 7.30pm

BSL: 14 March, 7.30pm; 24 March, 1pm  
Relaxed: 3 April, 7.30pm; 7 April, 1pm  
Captioned: 13 October, 7.30pm

## YARD TICKETS

Since 1997, the Globe has proudly offered £5 standing tickets. Hundreds of the most economically accessible ticket in a major UK theatre will remain available for every performance, and now hundreds more will be available at £10 as well. Audiences are advised to book early to secure them.

## SHAKESPEARE'S GLOBE

Website | [Shakespearesglobe.com](https://www.shakespearesglobe.com)  
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Globe Player | [Player.shakespearesglobe.com](https://player.shakespearesglobe.com)  
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Teach Shakespeare | [Teach.shakespearesglobe.com](https://teach.shakespearesglobe.com)  
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Virtual Tour | [shakespearesglobe.com/globe360](https://shakespearesglobe.com/globe360)

## Our Cause

We celebrate Shakespeare's transformative impact on the world by conducting a radical theatrical experiment. Inspired and informed by the unique historic playing conditions of two beautiful iconic theatres, our diverse programme of work harnesses the power of performance, cultivates intellectual curiosity and excites learning to make Shakespeare accessible for all.

**'And let us ...on your imaginary forces work' *Henry V, Prologue***

## Donate

We need you more than ever to help secure our future. [Please donate](#) any amount, small or large. We now have a text to donate service:  
To donate £20 text GLOBE20 to 70460  
To donate £10 text GLOBE10 to 70460  
To donate £5 text GLOBE5 to 70460

## Shop

Our online shop is bursting with clothing, bags, gifts, stationary, posters, books, DVDs, homeware and more. Get 10% off your first online order – just use code BARD10 at the checkout.

## Membership

Anyone who joins the Globe as a Member will receive a 10% discount in the shop as a thank you for their support. For information on how to become a Member or gift a Membership, you can visit our website <https://www.shakespearesglobe.com/join-and-support/memberships> or call on 020 7902 5970

## Swan Bar and Restaurant

Swan Bar is open 7 days a week. Situated at the theatre on London's bustling Bankside, we serve morning coffees to evening cocktails and everything in between, including breakfast and brunch, lunch, afternoon tea, pre-theatre and a la carte dining. From craft beers, local artisan gins and creative cocktails to classic dishes, summery salads, and delightful puddings. Opening times and menus can be viewed here: [swanlondon.co.uk](https://swanlondon.co.uk)

## Background Information

Shakespeare's Globe strives to make Shakespeare accessible for all. It is a registered charity and has operated independently since opening in 1997.

Shakespeare's Globe is a world-renowned theatre, education centre, and cultural landmark on the bank of the River Thames in London, UK. Founded by the pioneering American actor and director Sam Wanamaker, our site is home to two venues – the iconic open-air Globe Theatre (1997) and the candlelit indoor Sam Wanamaker Playhouse (2014).

Many of our productions also enjoy an extended life online through our video-on-demand service [Globe Player](#), in cinemas across the UK, and on television. We are also a major venue for visiting artists, comedy, concerts and special events, and over our twenty five year history have produced over 43 world premieres of new plays, several of which have gone on to enjoy success in the West End, on Broadway and beyond.

Our Education department has long been one of the most active in the UK. We offer a hugely diverse programme of workshops, public events, university courses, and community projects. Our Guided Tour is award-winning, and our visitors also enjoy our on-site and online shop.

The Globe Theatre is a unique full-scale replica of Shakespeare's original 1599 Elizabethan open-air theatre. Our indoor candle-lit Sam Wanamaker Playhouse is an archetype of an indoor Jacobean theatre.